GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:535
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007
NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the State have not implemented the enhanced old-age pension scheme under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) announced during 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) the salient features of the programme;

(d) the funds provided for each scheme falling under NSAP along with their present status, State-wise;

(e) the beneficiaries under NSAP sector indicating the amount thus provided to them, State-wise and Scheme-wise; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to ensure that the schemes are implemented in all the States without further delay?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a)&(b) All the States/UTs except the state of Gujarat, J&K, Kerala, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshdweep have confirmed disbursement of pension at enhanced rate. The State of Gujarat, J&K, Kerala, Punjab and Manipur have intimated that the matter is under consideration. Reply from Meghalaya, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep is awaited.

(c) Enclosed as annexure-I.

(d) &(e) After transfer of the scheme to the State Plan since 2002-03, the funds are being allocated by the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Rural Development and released by Ministry of Finance on the recommendation of the Ministry of Rural Development as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) in a combined manner for all the three schemes viz. National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and Annapurna. The ACA provided to the States / UTs under NSAP and Annapurna are to be utilized by the States/ UTs as Welfare Schemes of NOAPS, NFBS or free food grains to the aged by taking one or two or all of the three schemes or in any another combination in accordance with their own priorities and needs. The funds provided for the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 and the no. of beneficiaries reported by the States is enclosed as Annexure-II and III.

(f) As per guidelines of the Schemes, the States are required to furnish Quarterly physical and financial progress report in the given format by the 15th of month of the following quarter. Non reporting of the physical and financial progress reports is construed as lack of progress and therefore, may result in non-release of ACA for the last quarter of the financial year. Review of NSAP and Annapurna has also been made part of the agenda of District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

To review the programme and to implement the Programme in more effective manner, meeting of Nodal Secretary of States dealing with NSAP and Annapurna are oraganised by the Ministry of Rural Development from time to time.

Annexure-I

Annexure refer to in reply to part (c) of the Lok Sabh Unstarred Question No.535 due for reply on 2.3.2007

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROGRAMME

1. The scale of benefit and eligibility for various schemes of NSAP are as follows:

(i) National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS): Central assistance of Rs 200 per month is provided per beneficiary for destitutes above 65 years. The scheme covers destitutes having little or no regular means of subsistence from his / her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. In order to determine destitution, the criteria, if any, currently in force in the State / UT Governments is adapted. The Government of India reserves the right to review these criteria and suggest appropriate revised criteria.

(ii) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS): Similarly under National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) Rs.10000/- has to be given to the bereaved household on the death of the `primary breadwinner`. The primary breadwinner as specified in the scheme, whether male or female, has to be a member of the household whose earning contribute substantially to the total household income. The death of such a primary breadwinner occurring whilst he or she is in the age group of 18 to 64 years i.e., more than 18 years of age and less than 65 years of age, makes the family eligible to receive grants under the scheme.

(iii) Annapurna Scheme: This Scheme aims at providing food security to meet the requirement of those senior citizens who, though eligible, have remained uncovered under the NOAPS. Under the Annapurna Scheme 10 kgs of food grains per month are provided free of cost to the beneficiary. The ceiling on the total number of Annapurna beneficiaries is to be at least 20% of the persons eligible to receive pension under NOAPS.

2. Selection: The Gram Panchayat / Municipalities are expected to play an active role in the identification of the beneficiaries under the three schemes.

3. Disbursement: Apart from the disbursal of benefits through the accounts of the beneficiaries in Banks or in Post Office Savings Banks or through Postal Money Order the assistance under NOAPS, can also be disbursed in public meetings such as Gram Sabha meetings in rural areas and by neighbourhood / mohalla committees in urban areas.

Annexure-II

Annexure referred and reply to part (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 535 due for reply on 2.3.2007

Funds Allocated and Released to the States/UTs during 2005-06 and 2006-07

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No	States/UTs	Year : 2005-06 Combined Total Allocation for 3 schemes	Year : 2006-07 Combined Allocation for 3 schemes	Total Release
1	Andhra Pradesh	6746.70	6746.70	14882.08	11161.55
2	Bihar	13213.06	13213.06	36002.21	27001.65
3	Chhattisgarh	2890.35	2880.35	7321.38	5491.05
4	Goa	66.95	66.95	66.95	50.22
5	Gujarat	3582.50	3582.50	5601.09	4200.82
6	Haryana	1311.73	1311.73	3296.24	2472.19
7	Himachal Pradesh	547.17	547.17	1389.07	1041.81
8	J & K	735.10	735.10	1716.73	1287.54
9	Jharkhand	4615.34	4615.34	12746.83	9560.13
10	Karnataka	5207.76	5207.76	11238.58	8428.94
11	Kerala	2874.17	2874.17	5040.98	3780.74
12	Madhya Pradesh	7649.45	7649.45	17387.81	13040.85
13	Maharashtra	10234.03	10234.03	22213.90	16660.43
14	Orissa	5899.77	5899.77	17021.70	12766.29
15	Punjab	897.89	897.89	1601.91	1201.43
16	Rajasthan	3773.48	3754.48	8533.25	6399.93
17	Tamilnadu	7043.03	7043.03	13159.75	9869.82
18	Uttar Pradesh	19851.70	19851.70	50432.59	37824.45
19	Uttarakhand	1224.26	1224.26	3217.40	2413.06
20	West Bengal	7993.56	7993.56	18914.86	14186.15
	Total	106358.00	106329.00	251785.31	188839.05
	North Eastern States				
21	Arunachal Pradesh	415.46	415.46	759.10	569.33
22	Assam	8218.02	8218.02	19717.54	14788.16
23	Manipur	628.92	628.92	1320.90	990.69
24	Meghalaya	684.72	684.72	1479.85	1109.88
25	Mizoram	195.85	195.85	345.30	258.99
26	Nagaland	447.02	447.02	1016.70	762.54
27	Sikkim	190.69	190.69	378.18	283.65
28	Tripura	1119.32	1119.32	2386.93	1790.19
	Sub Total	11900.00	11900.00	27404.50	20553.43
	UTs				
29	A&N Islands	20.00	20.00	78.42	71.89
30	Chandigarh	16.00	16.00	16.00	14.67
31	D&N Haveli	15.00	15.00	78.42	71.89
32	Daman & Diu	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.67

33 NCT Delhi	567.00	567.00	567.00	519.75
34 Lakshadweep	5.00	5.00	5.60	5.13
35 Pondicherry	115.00	115.00	115.00	105.42
Sub Total	742.00	742.00	864.44	792.41
GRAND TOTAL	119000.00	118971.00	280054.25	210184.89

Annexure -III

Annexure referred and reply to part (d) & (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 535 due for reply on 2.3.2007

Number of Beneficiaries reported by the State/Uts during 2005-06

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of Beneficiaries reported NOAPS	NFBS	Annapurna
1	Andhra Pradesh	466000	16492	93200
2	Bihar	820193	27920	148483
3	Chhattisgarh	183893	11472	25337
4	Goa	3451	282	NR
5	Gujarat	63550	7718	20358
6	Haryana	95800	4500	NR
7	Himachal Pradesh	22700	3040	5242
8	J & K	64708	3110	NR
9	Jharkhand	166236	3744	54939
10	Karnataka	488130	NR	NR
11	Kerala	131346	NR	44980
12	Madhya Pradesh	683680	30551	NR
13	Maharashtra	659429	18302	120000
14	Orissa	493381	4635	NR
15	Punjab	45853	1290	NR
16	Rajasthan	144555	10426	119162
17	Tamilnadu	481028	48977	71974
18	Uttar Pradesh	1461481	30500	NR
19	Uttarakhand	64246	3000	NR
20	West Bengal	451579	13296	67611
Sub Total		6991239	239255	771286

North Eastern States

21	Arunachal Pradesh	12923	260	NR
22	Assam	614513	15539	26640
23	Manipur	43619	2024	22695
24	Meghalaya	33776	618	9263
25	Mizoram	10525	400	2583
26	Nagaland	30051	680	NR
27	Sikkim	14869	157	2500
28	Tripura	83972	1460	17351
Sub Total		844248	21138	81032

UTs

29	A&N Islands	665	NR	NR
30	Chandigarh	4497	157	NR
31	D&N Haveli	1086	134	NR
32	Daman & Diu	372		NR
33	NCT Delhi	150000	400	NR
34	Lakshadweep	32	NR	NR

35	Pondicherry	NR	NR	NR	
Sub Total		156652	691		
GRAND TOTAL		7992139	261084	852318	

NR : Not Reported